

The present application is a National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/FR00/02211, filed August 1, 2000. Further, the present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of French Patent Application Nos. 99/10029 filed on August 2, 1999.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

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The invention relates to adhesive tapes in general, and in particular those used for taping bundles of cable, more particularly in car construction.

2. Discussion of Background Information

An important feature of an adhesive tape is that it should be easily tearable by hand. In fact, for a manual application, the tearability of the adhesive tape makes it possible to do away with the use of a cutting tool, which at the same time limits the risk of injury and the handling time.*A2*

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 of the specification with the following (see Appendix 2 for changes):

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Manufacturing methods using techniques other than weaving give rise to good tearability by hand with polyester fibers, which makes it possible to retain good properties of temperature resistance (classification T3 in the car). These are techniques of manufacturing non-woven supports of the Maliwatt and Malivlies types. Adhesive tapes

using such non-woven supports are described in EP-0668336-A, DE 4442092 A and DE-
A2 DE 4442093 A. On the other hand, taking into account the manufacturing method, the resistance
to abrasion of this type of substrate is lower than that with a woven base.¶

*Please replace the second to last paragraph on page 2 of the specification with the
following (see Appendix 3 for changes):*

A. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A3 The invention therefore provides an adhesive tape with a woven support with a base
of polyester fibers having the property of being tearable by hand.¶

*Please insert the following paragraphs after the fifth paragraph on page 3 of the
specification:*

A4 ¶The invention provides also for an adhesive tape comprising a support which is
woven from a plurality of threads formed at least in the majority of ethylene
polyterephthalate, at least some of the plurality comprising longitudinal threads which extend
in a longitudinal direction of the adhesive tape, at least some of the plurality comprising
transverse threads extending transversely relative to the longitudinal direction, and a layer
of adhesive covering at least one face of the support, wherein a titre of the longitudinal
threads per unit width of the adhesive tape is lower than a titre of the transverse threads per

unit length of the adhesive tape and at least equal to 2500 dtex/cm, the longitudinal threads being held in place in the transverse direction by the adhesive, so as to give to the adhesive tape a transverse tearing stress of less than 10 N.

The titre of the transverse threads per unit length may be between 3000 and 4500 dtex/cm. The longitudinal threads may be arranged closer to one another and have a lower unit titre than the transverse threads. A number of the longitudinal threads may comprise between 30 and 50 longitudinal threads per cm width. A number of the transverse threads may comprise between 18 and 27 transverse threads per cm length. The titre of the longitudinal threads may be between about 40 and 60 dtex. The titre of the transverse threads may be between 150 and 250 dtex. The adhesive may be sensitive to pressure. The adhesive tape may further comprise an anti-adhesive layer covering a face of the support which is opposite the face which is covered by the adhesive. The plurality of threads may be dyed in bulk.

The invention also provides for an adhesive tape comprising a support comprising a plurality of threads, a first face and a second face, each of the plurality of threads comprising ethylene polyterephthalate, at least some of the plurality comprising longitudinal threads being arranged in a longitudinal direction, at least some of the plurality comprising transverse threads being arranged transversely relative to the longitudinal direction, a layer of adhesive arranged on the first face, and an anti-adhesive layer arranged on the second face, wherein

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a titre of the longitudinal threads per unit width of the adhesive tape is lower than a titre of the transverse threads per unit length of the adhesive tape and at least equal to 2500 dtex/cm, the longitudinal threads being held in place in the transverse direction by the adhesive, so as to give to the adhesive tape a transverse tearing stress of less than 10 N.

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The titre of the transverse threads per unit length may be between 3000 and 4500 dtex/cm. The longitudinal threads may be arranged closer to one another and have a lower unit titre than the transverse threads. A number of the longitudinal threads may comprise between 30 and 50 longitudinal threads per cm width. A number of the transverse threads may comprise between 18 and 27 transverse threads per cm length. The titre of the longitudinal threads may be between about 40 and 60 dtex. The titre of the transverse threads may be between 150 and 250 dtex. The adhesive may be sensitive to pressure. Each of the plurality of threads may be dyed.

The invention also provides for an adhesive tape comprising a plurality of threads forming a support comprising a first face and a second face, each of the plurality of threads comprising ethylene polyterephthalate. At least some of the plurality comprise longitudinal threads which are arranged in a longitudinal direction. At least some of the plurality comprising transverse threads which are arranged transversely relative to the longitudinal direction, a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive arranged on the first face, and a non-adhesive layer arranged on the second face. A titre of the longitudinal threads per unit width of the

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adhesive tape is lower than a titre of the transverse threads per unit length of the adhesive tape and at least equal to 2500 dtex/cm. The longitudinal threads are held in place in the transverse direction by the adhesive, so as to give to the adhesive tape a transverse tearing stress of less than 10 N.

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Please replace the fourth paragraph from the bottom on page 4 with the following (see Appendix 4 for changes):

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The features and advantages of the invention will be disclosed in more detail in the following description, with reference to the attached drawings.

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Please replace the last paragraph on page 4 of the specification with the following (see Appendix 5 for changes):

A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

By way of non-limiting example, a fabric was made using threads with multiple filaments formed of polyester fibers, dyed continuously black in bulk by a dye resistant to a temperature of 150°C. Weaving is effected by way of air jet or water jet, using 40 warp threads per centimeter, with a unit titre of 50 dtex, and 22 weft threads per centimeter, of a unit titre of 167 dtex. The woven support obtained is covered on one face with a

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pressure-sensitive adhesive with a rubber base modified by resins, dissolved in toluene, and on the other face with an anti-adhesive varnish applied by the technique known as "reverse roll" (coating by cylinder to cylinder transfer). An adhesive tape obtained by cutting out the support thus covered parallel to the warp threads has excellent temperature resistance (thermal class T4) and good resistance to abrasion.

Please replace the Abstract with the Abstract appended on the following page: